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## URTICACEÆ.

ULMUS, L.—*U. fulva*, Michx. ; Palisades ; Glen Cove, *Coles* ; Central Park, *R. & P.*—*U. Americana*, L. ; common ; N. Y.—*U. campestris*, L. ; in abandoned grounds.

CELTIS, Tourn.—*C. occidentalis*, L. ; not uncommon ; N. Y. ; Glen Cove, *Coles* ; Weehawken, abundant ; Closter, scarce, *Austin* ; North Salem, *Mead*.

MORUS, Tourn.—*M. rubra*, L. ; Bloomingdale, *Torr. Cat.* ; Chatham, N. J., *W. H. L.* ; Glen Cove, *Coles* ; Closter, scarce, *Austin* ; Hoboken Heights, *Ruger* ; Central Park, *R. & P.*—*M. alba*, L. ; rather common about the city, 86th Street, Astoria, Hoboken, etc., *W. H. L.* ; Central Park, *R. & P.*

9. Herbarium Suggestions.—No. 5. *Poisoning Plants*.—All phænogamous plants, at least, are not only liable to be attacked by insects when in a dry state, but are pretty sure to be thus destroyed in time if not properly protected. The ferns appear to be mostly free from this danger, and it is not considered necessary to poison a specimen of a fern, unless it be extremely rare.

For poisoning we use a solution of corrosive sublimate in alcohol, about one ounce of the sublimate to a quart of alcohol ; or the strength may be tested by dipping a black feather in the solution, which should not be strong enough to whiten the feather when dried.

Now there is one precaution with regard to the use of this solution, which sad experience leads me to insist upon at the outset :—corrosive sublimate acts upon all metals in common use, and forms a dark compound which stains anything with which it comes in contact. Hence this solution should never be kept in a metallic vessel, nor be applied with a brush having a metallic ring ; and all metals should even be avoided in every process to which the specimen is subjected after poisoning, as, for instance, in gluing.

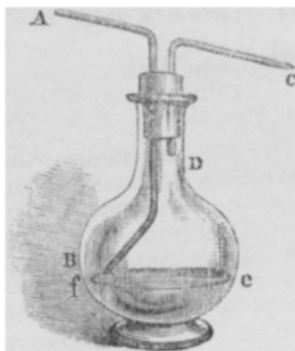
To illustrate this danger, I will say that I once employed a person to glue a large lot of valuable plants, which I had poisoned, to my herbarium sheets. Aware of the danger referred to, I had provided a glue-pot lined with porcelain, although made of iron. When the job was done, I found, to my disgust, that the sheets of paper were ruined by dark stains in almost every part, and the specimens had to be soaked off and reapplied to fresh sheets. Upon examining into the cause, I found that the porcelain lining of the pot had chipped off in places, exposing the iron ; the glue-brush, alternately dipped in the glue and then applied to the poisoned plants, had brought the sublimate and the iron together, and the unsightly color had been distributed wherever the plants or the towel used in pressing them down had touched the white paper.

The solution of corrosive sublimate having been prepared, the specimens may be either immersed or sprinkled. With valuable plants, I have sometimes poured the solution into a large, shallow, dinner plate, such as is used for joints, and immersed the whole specimen for a second therein.

It is usually sufficient, however, and it is far more convenient to

apply the solution by sprinkling ; and the application need be made in the tougher specimens only to the more tender parts of the plant which are especially exposed to the attacks of insects—I mean the flower itself, including the receptacle, the buds, and the younger shoots ; thus the axils of the branches should receive special attention

The accompanying wood-cut represents the most convenient bottle for this application. It will be noticed that it is different in construction from the ordinary “drop-bottle,” and does not require any blowing with the mouth through one of the glass tubes, but needs only to be inclined at an angle to discharge a fine stream of the solution wherever desired. DC is the tube through which the fluid escapes ; AB, the tube through which the air enters to supply the place of the escaping stream. The bottle should be filled only to the line *ft*, below the lower



opening of the tube AB, otherwise on inclining the bottle the fluid will flow into this tube and obstruct the entrance of air. When such a bottle is ordered of a glass-blower, unless minute directions are given, he will think you want an ordinary chemist's drop-bottle and will reverse the lengths of the tubes. The extremity C of the discharge tube should be drawn to a very fine point.

After poisoning specimens they are to be laid between driers and placed under a light weight for twenty-four hours, when, as the alcohol is quickly absorbed or evaporated, they will be found to be sufficiently dry.

F. J. B.

10. Notes by Mr. Bower.—The new station of *Asplenium montanum*, Willd., is very much more north than any before mentioned. I have a specimen from Lancaster Co., Penn., but believe it has not yet been reported from New Jersey. It is curious that this species should make such a leap north. *Aspidium fragrans*, Swartz, has been found at Bellows Falls, N. H., and among the Adirondacks, and perhaps a time may come when both may be found growing together. They are plants of similar habits in not producing runners, and, although individual roots may increase so that several plants may be made of one, the natural way of both is to multiply by spores.

The subject of the two modes of multiplication of plants is interesting. Those with running roots do not seed freely. In my garden *Lygodium palmatum*, Swartz, creeps along and now occupies the sod of a bed about 12x24 inches, which is a little lower than that adjoining, but I do not see any seedlings. While young plants of *Aspidium Goldianum*, Hook., and *A. cristatum*, Swartz, var. *Clintonianum*, are frequent in my place, I see no seedlings of *Asplenium thelypteroides*, Mchx ; it increases enough the other way.

*Struthiopteris Germanica*, Willd., has a habit peculiar in sending